



General Assembly

Fifty-fifth session

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General Committee

Summary record of the 1st meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 6 September 2000, at 8 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Holkeri (President of the General Assembly) (Finland)

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Organization of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General

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00-63284 (E)



The meeting was called to order at 8 p.m.

Organization of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/55/1 and Add.1)

Section I: Introduction

Paragraphs 4 and 5

1. *The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the provisions reproduced in annexes V, VI, VII and VIII of its rules of procedure. It took note of paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.*

Section II: Organization of the session

Paragraph 6 (General Committee)

2. *The Committee took note of the decision and resolutions referred to in paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.*

Paragraphs 7 to 11 (Rationalization of work)

3. *The Committee took note of paragraphs 7, 8, 10 and 11 and decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 9 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.*

Paragraph 12 (Closing date of the session)

4. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should recess not later than Tuesday, 5 December 2000, and to draw its attention to the fact that the closing date of the fifty-fifth session would be subject to a decision by the Assembly. The Committee also decided to recommend to the Assembly that the First Committee should complete its work by Friday, 3 November, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) by Thursday, 9 November, the Third Committee by Friday, 10 November, the Sixth Committee by Tuesday, 21 November, and the Second and Fifth Committees by Friday, 1 December.*

Paragraphs 13 to 15 (Schedule of meetings)

5. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that morning meetings, with the exception of plenary meetings of the Millennium*

Summit, should start at 10 a.m. promptly for all plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees. The Committee also decided to recommend to the Assembly that, as a cost-saving measure, plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees, including informal meetings, should be adjourned by 6 p.m., and that no meetings should be held on weekends, with the exception of the general debate. It further decided to recommend that the cost-saving measure should also apply, for the remainder of 2000, to meetings on the calendar of conferences and meetings.

6. *The Committee decided to recommend that, in order to avoid the late start of meetings, the General Assembly should waive the quorum requirements for plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees and should remind delegations of the utmost importance of punctuality in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations.*

7. **The Chairman** strongly endorsed the suggestions made at previous sessions that each delegation should designate one of its members to be present at the scheduled starting time of meetings. While some progress had been reported, there was still considerable room for improvement. He therefore urged all delegations to cooperate.

Paragraphs 16 to 19 (General debate)

8. *The Committee took note of paragraph 16 specifying the dates of the general debate, drew the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 17 suggesting a voluntary guideline of 20 minutes for statements in the general debate and endorsed the suggestions contained in paragraph 18 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.*

9. **The Chairman** urged representatives, in view of the large number of speakers already inscribed on the list of speakers in the general debate, to take the floor in the order in which they appeared on that list. Those unable to speak at the scheduled time would be put at the end of the list for that meeting.

10. *The Committee decided to recommend that the procedures outlined in paragraph 19 of the Secretary-General's memorandum should also apply during the fifty-fifth session.*

Paragraphs 20 to 22 (Explanations of vote, right of reply, points of order and length of statements)

11. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of its decision 34/401. It also decided to recommend to the Assembly that points of order should be limited to five minutes.

12. The Committee further decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 22 of the annex to resolution 51/241 and to paragraph 23 of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of that resolution (A/52/855), which stated that, since in plenary meetings the length of statements in debates other than the general debate averaged eight minutes, the General Assembly might wish to review the recommendation of a 15-minute limit contained in paragraph 22 of the annex to resolution 51/241.

13. The Committee further decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure and to paragraph 22 of annex VI thereto for appropriate action in plenary meetings and in the Main Committees.

Paragraph 23 (Records of meetings)

14. The Committee decided to take note of paragraph 23 of the Secretary-General's memorandum and, in that connection, decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the practice of not reproducing in extenso statements made in a Main Committee should be maintained for the fifty-fifth session.

Paragraph 24 (Seating arrangements)

15. The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 24 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

Paragraph 25 (Concluding statements)

16. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the need for the full implementation of paragraph 17 of General Assembly decision 34/401, whereby concluding statements could be made only by presiding officers.

Paragraphs 26 to 29 (Resolutions)

17. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 32 of its decision

34/401 and to recommendation 3 (f) of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, to paragraph 5 of its resolution 48/264 and to paragraphs 1 and 10 of the annex to its resolution 45/45.

Paragraphs 30 to 32 (Documentation)

18. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 28 of its decision 34/401, to paragraph 6 of its resolution 48/264 and to paragraph 5 of its resolution 54/248 C emphasizing the six-week in advance rule governing distribution of documents.

19. The Committee also decided to draw the Assembly's attention to paragraph 32 of the annex to its resolution 51/241 appealing to all bodies to exercise restraint in requesting new reports.

Paragraphs 33 to 37 (Questions related to the programme budget)

20. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the provisions contained in paragraphs 33 and 34, to the observations contained in paragraphs 35 and 36 and to paragraph 37 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

Paragraphs 38 and 39 (Observances and commemorative meetings)

21. The Committee endorsed the suggestions contained in paragraphs 38 and 39 of the Secretary-General's memorandum, including a 15-minute limit on statements.

Paragraphs 40 and 41 (Special conferences)

22. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the recommendations referred to in paragraphs 40 and 41 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

Paragraph 42 (Meetings of subsidiary organs)

23. **The Chairman** drew attention to a letter dated 16 August 2000 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences (A/55/312) informing him that the Committee had recommended that a number of subsidiary organs should be authorized to meet during the main part of the fifty-fifth session, on the strict understanding that meetings would have to be accommodated within available facilities and services. Authorization was sought for the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund and the Preparatory Committee for the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development.

24. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should authorize the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund and the Preparatory Committee for the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development to meet during the main part of the fifty-fifth session.*

*Section III. Observations on the organization of future sessions of the General Assembly**Paragraphs 43 to 45*

25. *The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 51/241 (A/52/855), in particular paragraphs 16 and 17 thereof, which highlighted the difficulties that would be encountered in the future in implementing that resolution. It also decided to recommend that the General Assembly should address, during its fifty-fifth session, the question of the opening and closing dates of future regular sessions with a view to deciding on a formula to determine those dates.*

26. *The Committee further decided to draw the Assembly's attention to the recommendation referred to in paragraph 45 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.*

*Section IV. Adoption of the agenda (A/55/150)**Paragraph 46*

27. **The Chairman** said that, in accordance with rule 40 of the rules of procedure, the Committee would not consider the substance of any item except insofar as it bore on the question of whether or not to recommend the inclusion of that item in the agenda.

Paragraph 47 (Rationalization of General Assembly procedures)

28. *The Committee took note of the suggestions made in paragraph 47 of the Secretary-General's memorandum and decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraphs 4 and 5 (a) and (c) of annex I to its resolution 48/264 and to paragraphs 23 to 26 of the annex to its resolution 51/241.*

*Paragraphs 48 and 49 (Inclusion of items)**Items 173, 182 and 185*

29. **The Chairman** noted that the contents of paragraph 48 of the Secretary-General's memorandum would be of relevance for consideration of the inclusion of items 173 and 182, while in paragraph 1 of addendum 1 to that memorandum, the Secretary-General drew the Committee's attention to a letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council proposing the deletion of item 185.

30. *The Committee took note of paragraph 48 and decided to recommend the deletion of item 185.*

Items 1 to 6

31. **The Chairman** said that since items 1 to 6 had already been dealt with, he took it that there were no comments on their inclusion in the agenda.

32. *It was so agreed.*

Items 7 to 58

33. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of items 7 to 58 in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session.*

General Assembly. It participated regularly in meetings of the Third Committee of the Assembly, sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women. In recent years, the Council had also cooperated with the United Nations in crisis situations in Europe; inter alia, it had close working relations with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo. In 1994, the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council had established the practice of holding tripartite high-level meetings on a yearly basis to exchange information and coordinate activities in matters of common concern.

49. The Council of Europe was the only pan-European organization in a position to make a substantial contribution to the United Nations in fields in which its expertise was well recognized, in particular with regard to the building of pluralistic democracy based on the rule of law and respect for human rights. The Council was thus able to enhance on the European continent the ideals set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and contribute to their promotion in other parts of the world. Accordingly, it was appropriate and timely for the General Assembly to take note of the cooperation between the two organizations and to examine ways of strengthening it.

50. **The Chairman** said he took it the Committee wished to recommend the inclusion of item 172.

51. *It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 9.25 p.m.

Item 59

34. **Mr. Politi** (Italy) suggested that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of the item entitled "Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte" should be deferred to the fifty-sixth session.

35. **Mr. Kafando** (Burkina Faso) said that, following consultations with the Comoros and France, his delegation wished to support the suggestion made by the previous speaker.

36. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of the item should be deferred to the fifty-sixth session and that it should be included in the provisional agenda of that session.*

Items 60 to 92

37. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of items 60 to 92 in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session.*

Item 93

38. **Mr. Kafando** (Burkina Faso) said that, following consultations with Madagascar and France, his delegation wished to propose that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of the item entitled "Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India" should be deferred to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, without prejudice to the positions of those two countries on the issue.

39. **Mr. Göktürk** (Turkey) said that his delegation supported that proposal.

40. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of the item should be deferred to the fifty-sixth session and that it should be included in the provisional agenda of that session.*

Items 94 to 170

41. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of items 94 to 170 in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session.*

Item 171

42. **The Chairman** noted that there were eight other items (items 174, 175, 176, 178, 179, 180, 181 and

187) with the same title as item 171, namely "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations", and one item (item 177) whose title that was only slightly different, namely "Ad hoc scale of assessments for the United Nations peacekeeping operations". In accordance with the principle that agenda items concerning issues of closely related substance should be merged within a single agenda title where possible, the sponsors of all the items in question had agreed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly the consideration of one item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations" as item 171. He took it that the Committee wished to recommend the inclusion of such a consolidated item.

43. *It was so decided.*

Item 172

44. The Chairman said that the inclusion of item 172, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", had been proposed by Italy (A/55/191), and that the representative of Italy had asked to address the Committee on the matter under rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

45. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Borzi Cornacchia (Italy) took a place at the Committee table.*

46. **Ms. Borzi Cornacchia** (Italy) said that the United Nations and the Council of Europe had long been cooperating, sharing as they did the values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law. The democratic rights and freedoms developed and protected by the Council were enshrined in the 1950 European Convention on Human Rights and other instruments. The Council had developed means of enforcing respect for human rights, in particular by establishing the European Court of Human Rights.

47. The enlargement of the membership of the Council to 41 countries and the prospect of further enlargement to include all European countries had significantly extended the Council's geographic scope and endowed it with a pan-European dimension.

48. Cooperation between the Council and the United Nations had begun as far back as 1951, and the Council had also concluded agreements with various United Nations bodies and specialized agencies. In 1989 the Council had been granted observer status at the



General Assembly

Fifty-fifth session

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Summary record of the 2nd meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 7 September 2000, at 8 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Holkeri (President of the General Assembly) (Finland)

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Organization of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General
(continued)

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00-63485 (E)



The meeting was called to order at 8 p.m.

Organization of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (continued) (A/BUR/55/1 and Add.1)

Section IV. Adoption of the agenda (continued)

Paragraph 49 (continued)

Item 173

1. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of item 173 in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session.*

Item 182

2. **The Chairman** said that the representative of Sweden had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

3. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Norström (Sweden) took a place at the Committee table.*

4. **Mr. Norström** (Sweden) said that he wished to draw attention to document A/55/226, in which the 19 States members of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) were requesting observer status in the General Assembly for that organization. International IDEA was an intergovernmental organization which fulfilled the criteria for observer status as stipulated in General Assembly decision 49/426 of 1994. Its activities were related to those of the United Nations, and it was working with the United Nations and a number of other international organizations on several projects aimed at advancing democracy worldwide. It adopted a non-prescriptive approach to democracy promotion, choosing to provide options for democratization rather than a predetermined solution.

5. Therefore, on behalf of its members, he asked that the request for observer status in the General Assembly for International IDEA should be included in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly and allocated to the Sixth Committee.

6. *Mr. Norström (Sweden) withdrew.*

7. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of item 182 in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session.*

Item 183

8. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to begin its consideration of item 183, entitled "Need to examine the exceptional international situation pertaining to the Republic of China on Taiwan, to ensure that the fundamental right of its twenty-three million people to participate in the work and activities of the United Nations is fully respected" (A/55/227 and Add.1 and 2).

9. The representatives of Chad, Dominica, the Gambia, Grenada, Malawi, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Nicaragua, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, the Solomon Islands and Swaziland had asked to participate in the discussion of item 183 in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

10. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Babikir (Chad), Ms. Theodore (Dominica), Ms. Baldeh (Gambia), Ms. Celestine (Grenada), Ms. Thunyani (Malawi), Mr. Relang (Marshall Islands), Mr. Dowyogo (Nauru), Mr. Castellón Duarte (Nicaragua), Mr. Wilson (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. Ka (Senegal), Mr. Manele (Solomon Islands), and Mr. Mamba (Swaziland) took places at the Committee table.*

11. The representatives of Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belize, Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guyana, Iraq, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Pakistan, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam had asked to participate in the discussion of item 183. Rule 43 of the rules of procedure did not apply. He took it that the Committee wished to accede to the requests.

12. *It was so decided.*

13. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Farhadi (Afghanistan), Mr. Kerma (Algeria), Ms. Cruz (Angola), Mr. Bocalandro (Argentina) Mr. Hossain (Bangladesh), Ms. Shoman (Belize), Mr. Cordeiro (Brazil), Mr. Ouch Borima (Cambodia) Mr. Maquiera (Chile), Mr. Dausá Céspedes (Cuba), Mr. Moushoutas (Cyprus), Mr. Hong Je Rong (Democratic People's*

Republic of Korea), Mr. Boudine (Djibouti), Mr. Roushdy (Egypt), Ms. Drayton (Guyana), Mr. Al-Humainidi (Iraq), Mr. Deady (Ireland), Mr. Yessenbayev (Kazakhstan), Ms. Tothodjaeva (Kyrgyzstan), Mr. Kittikhoun (Lao People's Democratic Republic), Mr. Mochochoko (Lesotho), Mr. Osode (Liberia), Mr. Hamida (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), Mr. Maiga (Mali), Ms. Escobar (Mexico), Mr. Dorjsuren (Mongolia), Mr. Ahmad (Pakistan), Ms. Browne (Saint Kitts and Nevis), Ms. Joseph (Saint Lucia), Mr. Ferreira (Sao Tome and Principe), Mr. Van Schalkwyk (South Africa), Mr. de Saram (Sri Lanka), Mr. Mekdad (Syrian Arab Republic), Mr. Nurov (Tajikistan), Mr. Stevčevski (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Mr. Krokmal (Ukraine), Mr. Manongi (United Republic of Tanzania) and Mr. Hoang Chi Trong (Viet Nam) took places at the Committee table.

14. **Mr. Ka** (Senegal) said that the debate on the readmission of the Republic of China on Taiwan to the United Nations was necessary in order to make the world aware of the injustice being done to a State with a population of 23 million which freely exercised political sovereignty within its territory. The question of the Republic of China on Taiwan should be resolved within the United Nations in the interests of regional peace and stability.

15. Taiwan made a significant contribution to the world economy, ranking nineteenth in the world in gross domestic product and fourteenth in trade volume. There could be no better example of its status as a free and democratic country under the rule of law with strict observance of human rights than the presidential election and peaceful transfer of power which had taken place in March 2000. Moreover, Taiwan had contributed billions of dollars in development, humanitarian and disaster assistance to countries or regions in crisis. He saw no reason why the Republic of China could not be granted status similar to that accorded to other divided States which had been Members of the United Nations. Two Yemens and two Germanies had existed side by side until their reunification; the two Koreas, currently engaged in an encouraging process of political dialogue, were another good example. Thus, the readmission of the Republic of China would not appear to be an obstacle to reunification, but might indeed facilitate it. Readmission would also facilitate the integration of Taiwan Strait into the collective security system and

would provide a guarantee of peace and stability in South-East Asia.

16. The time had come to re-examine General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) and to remedy an unjust and discriminatory situation that did not reflect current realities. Therefore, he requested the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

17. **Mr. Wang Yingfan** (China) said that his delegation strongly opposed the inclusion of item 183 and hoped that the General Committee would continue to safeguard the purposes and principles of the Charter and to observe General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

18. There was only one China in the world, and Taiwan had been an inseparable part of its territory since ancient times. It was an indisputable fact that the Government of the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate Government representing the whole of China. By adopting resolution 2758 (XXVI) in 1971, the General Assembly had decided once and for all, in political, legal and procedural terms, the issue of China's representation at the United Nations. As a part of China, Taiwan was not eligible to participate under any name or any pretext in the work or activities of the United Nations or its specialized agencies. The question of Taiwan was a remnant from China's civil war and was fundamentally different from the issue of two Germanies or two Koreas.

19. His delegation appreciated the support of the vast majority of Member States, which had abided by the "one-China" principle, had opposed Taiwan's participation in international organizations composed of sovereign States and had stood against the inclusion of the issue of Taiwan's so-called participation in the United Nations in the agenda of the General Assembly.

20. **Mr. Ferreira** (Sao Tome and Principe) said that the world had watched earlier that year as the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan had reaffirmed their irrevocable commitment to democracy and development by freely electing a new President, despite numerous threats from Beijing to use force. International security concerned the entire international community, and the time had come to give peace a chance across the Taiwan Strait by allowing the people of Taiwan to be heard in the United Nations.

21. The request to include the item on the agenda was not, as some claimed, an attempt to intervene in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of China. Rather, in the spirit of the Charter, it was a question of the right of the 23 million people of the Republic of China on Taiwan to be represented.

22. Beijing's insistence on its definition of the "one-China" principle was helping to fuel a cross-Straits arms race that added to the tensions in Asia and the Western Pacific. That definition could not be imposed on the people of Taiwan against their will.

23. The new Government of Taiwan had pledged that it would not take any steps to change the status quo with regard to independence or unification as long as Beijing showed no intention of using force. Its embrace of peace and dialogue reflected Taiwan's commitment to the Charter of the United Nations.

24. **Mr. Dowiyogo** (Nauru) said that his delegation joined the plea for recognition of the Republic of China on Taiwan as a legitimate self-governing democratic State that deserved recognition in the United Nations.

25. Twenty-nine years earlier, the General Assembly had adopted resolution 2758 (XXVI) in the hope that the question of an independent Taiwan would disappear through economic and political attrition. Not only had the Republic of China survived the challenges it faced, but it had built a strong and vibrant economy. The recent elections proved its respect for democratic principles and human rights in full accord with the ideals of the United Nations. Therefore, as long as the Republic of China on Taiwan was excluded, it could not be said that the United Nations was truly a world body.

26. On the economic front, Taiwan, once the recipient of foreign aid, was itself currently providing assistance to countries in need around the globe. Its efforts to contribute financially or in kind to the specialized agencies of the United Nations had nonetheless been rejected. In the face of declining voluntary contributions, Taiwan's contributions to the regular and peacekeeping budgets would significantly lighten the financial load of the least developed countries. Membership would not only allow its people representation on the world stage, but would enable Taiwan to participate fully in humanitarian and development initiatives.

27. Many Member States recognized Taiwan as an economic and financial partner, buying its goods and accepting its assistance when convenient; their refusal to recognize it as a political entity was therefore hypocritical. It was time for that injustice to be rectified.

28. **Mr. Mamba** (Swaziland) said that the situation of the Republic of China on Taiwan was but one example of the impact of the cold war on international relations. With the cold war over, the Organization had an obligation to address that situation and to right the imbalance caused by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

29. The Republic of China on Taiwan was committed to improving its relations with the People's Republic of China. Considerable progress had been made: cross-Straits trade had increased; intermittent talks on a variety of practical issues were being held; and efforts were under way to lift restrictions on shipping, transportation and communication. The United Nations must acknowledge those achievements, since, with its support, a new chapter in cross-Straits relations could be opened.

30. **Mr. Farhadi** (Afghanistan) said that, when it had adopted resolution 2758 (XXVI) in 1971, the General Assembly had unequivocally recognized the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations. Differences between the Republic of China on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China must be settled by the two Governments. Allowing any kind of participation by the former in the work and activities of the United Nations would undermine the "one-China" principle, and his delegation therefore urged the Committee, as it had every year, not to recommend the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda.

31. **Mr. Nurov** (Tajikistan) said that his delegation's support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and international legal status of the People's Republic of China, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the bilateral agreements between the two States, remain unchanged. There was only one China, of which Taiwan was an integral part, and the Government of the People's Republic of China was its sole legitimate representative. The issue had been definitively settled by the General Assembly in its resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had been adopted by an

overwhelming majority of Member States. His delegation could not therefore support the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda.

32. **Mr. Manele** (Solomon Islands) said that his delegation fully endorsed the statement made by the representative of Senegal. The United Nations should acknowledge the accomplishments of the Republic of China on Taiwan, which had become a dynamic democracy and an active proponent of respect for human rights. The challenges of the twenty-first century demanded an inclusive and universal United Nations. Taiwan was already working multilaterally with a number of international agencies to support local development projects around the world. Its participation in the Organization would enable it to enhance that contribution still further. Peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait was critical to the security of the Asia and Pacific region and the world as a whole. The democratic transformation of the Republic of China on Taiwan and the ongoing reforms in the People's Republic of China had created a historic opportunity to erase decades of hostility and engender a lasting reconciliation between the two sides. The United Nations would be the best venue for building confidence and providing opportunities for contact, dialogue and cooperation. It must therefore find a way of allowing the Republic of China on Taiwan to participate in its work.

33. **Ms. Shoman** (Belize) said that the people of Belize, who had gained their independence less than 25 years earlier, were sympathetic to the wish of the 23 million people of Taiwan to be heard by the United Nations. As a member of the Alliance of Small Island States, Belize understood that the people of Taiwan were unique and, like the populations of other islands, had special needs. There was a growing realization in the international community of the importance of addressing those needs. Her delegation believed that the United Nations should intensify its study of the challenges posed by islands, and that the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda would further that objective.

34. **Mr. Bocalandro** (Argentina) said that, by its resolution 2758 (XXVI), the General Assembly had recognized that the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China were the only lawful representatives of China to the United Nations and that the People's Republic of China was one of the five permanent members of the Security Council. In

accordance with that resolution and in line with its respect for the principle of territorial integrity enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, Argentina had accepted the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only lawful Government of China. His delegation could not therefore support the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda.

35. **Ms. Theodore** (Dominica) said that it was fundamentally wrong to exclude the 23 million citizens of the Republic of China on Taiwan from participation in the work of the United Nations. The Republic of China on Taiwan had demonstrated respect for the principles of justice, human rights and fundamental freedoms. It was the world's ninth largest economy, the fourteenth largest trading nation and a member of 961 international organizations. No other sovereign political entity with a comparable record of achievement had been denied participation in the Organization. For geopolitical reasons, however, a discriminatory policy was being pursued in respect of the Republic of China on Taiwan, in violation of the principle of universal membership.

36. Participation implied contribution. Thus, the policy of exclusion deprived the United Nations of the tremendous contribution that the Republic of China on Taiwan could make. The "one-China" policy enunciated in General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) would not necessarily be violated by permitting the citizens of the Republic of China on Taiwan to participate in the activities of the United Nations. On the contrary, such a step might promote the peaceful resolution of the differences between that country and the People's Republic of China, which would enhance peace and security in the region. Her delegation believed that the citizens of the Republic of China on Taiwan had earned the right to have their peculiar circumstances reviewed. It therefore urged the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda.

37. **Mr. Kafando** (Burkina Faso) said that the issue of the participation of the Republic of China on Taiwan in the United Nations could not be avoided indefinitely. The consequences of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which was supposed to have resolved the matter, now constituted a threat to international peace and security. Since the adoption of that resolution in 1971, the Republic of China had continued to exist not as a province, but as a full-fledged State. Indeed, it had all the attributes of a State recognized by international law: a territory, a

population of 23 million and a democratically elected Government, which made legislation and maintained diplomatic relations with other States. Furthermore, it had proved that it met all the conditions for membership of the United Nations. It was fully committed to the Organization's ideals, as demonstrated by its efforts towards reconciliation with the People's Republic of China.

38. The international community had an obligation to facilitate a rapprochement between the two countries. One of the factors that had contributed to the recent and welcome improvement in the relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea was the fact that both were members of the United Nations. The readmission of the Republic of China to the Organization would ensure peace and stability in South-East Asia.

39. Burkina Faso's recognition of the Republic of China was based on its respect for the freedom of all peoples to determine their own fate, a principle enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, while its support for the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda was motivated by its desire to serve the cause of peace.

40. **Mr. Relang** (Marshall Islands) said that, over the past five decades, the Republic of China on Taiwan had become a full democracy practising market economics and showing respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, a principle that the Marshall Islands held dear. The Republic of China on Taiwan had the capacity to be a strategic partner and to make a significant contribution to the common good. The denial of the right of the Republic of China on Taiwan to participate in the work of the United Nations was contrary to the spirit of the Organization and the principle of universality.

41. The United Nations must re-examine the unique situation of the Republic of China if it wished to achieve its goals of conflict prevention, maintenance of peace and regional stability, development of democracy and achievement of international progress. As the recent rapprochement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea had demonstrated, the United Nations was a forum in which Member States could build trust and resolve differences through peaceful dialogue. It was time for the United Nations to lend a helping hand to the dialogue between the Republic of China on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China and for the voices of

the 23 million people of the Republic of China to be heard. His delegation therefore supported the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda.

42. **Ms. Baldeh** (Gambia) said that the Millennium Summit was a time when the international community should embrace opportunities, make progress on issues that divided it and move forward, rather than living in the past. It defied logic that a country of 23 million inhabitants with so much to offer to the international community should continue to be barred from participating in the work of the United Nations. The Republic of China on Taiwan could be proud of its achievements. Following the presidential elections in March 2000, it had experienced for the first time the peaceful transition of power from one political party to another. With regard to development and poverty eradication, it was cooperating with a number of financial institutions to support projects around the world and had contributed billions of dollars to disaster relief. The Republic of China was also a leading trading nation and was currently in the vanguard of the information technology and communications revolution.

43. As to cross-Strait relations, since 1987 over 12 million visits had been arranged and 100 million letters and telephone calls exchanged, while cross-Strait trade amounted to \$27 billion. The United Nations should not only take note of, but also support the conciliatory gestures of the Republic of China on Taiwan towards the People's Republic of China. In particular, it should consider how both countries could participate at the same time in the Organization. Her delegation was confident that parallel representation of divided nations in the United Nations could lead to their peaceful unification, as had been the case with the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic. It therefore fully supported the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

44. **Mr. Al-Awdi** (Kuwait) said that the issue of China's representation had been decided in favour of the People's Republic of China by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). The proposed item 183 was at variance with that resolution and effectively denied the sovereignty of China. There was only one China and only one Chinese people. His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the item.

45. **Mr. Castellón Duarte** (Nicaragua) said that his delegation supported the establishment of a General

Assembly working group to examine the exceptional international situation of the Republic of China on Taiwan, to ensure that its 23 million inhabitants could participate meaningfully in the work of the United Nations. The Republic of China on Taiwan satisfied all the requirements for membership set forth in Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations. Its Government had been democratically elected and respected human rights; it maintained diplomatic and trade relations with other countries; and it provided much invaluable assistance to developing countries, including both humanitarian disaster assistance and development assistance. As a member of the United Nations, it would be able to make a positive contribution to the Organization's work. His delegation therefore supported the inclusion of item 183.

46. **Mr. Babikir** (Chad) said that since dialogue was the best way to resolve disagreements, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China on Taiwan should engage in dialogue in the pursuit of a satisfactory solution that would preserve peace on both sides of the Taiwan Strait. After all, they had coexisted since 1949, each in accordance with its own system of government. The United Nations was a forum where every country could make its voice heard in the international community, and it was only right that Taiwan should join the rest, especially as it met all the required conditions and contributed substantially to world peace and development. Accordingly, his delegation supported the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda.

47. **Ms. Osode** (Liberia) said that her delegation supported the inclusion of item 183. At the dawn of the new millennium, the issue concerning the two sides of the Taiwan Strait offered both an indictment of, and an opportunity for the United Nations: the former in that, in excluding the Republic of China, the Organization was not being sufficiently inclusive, in accordance with the principle of universality enshrined in its Charter, and the latter in that the inclusion of the proposed item would bring about justice for the people of Taiwan. Rapid political and economic changes were transforming the world, and the Republic of China had contributed greatly to spreading the benefits of change around the world. Its record was undeniable: it was democratically governed, it respected human rights, its people were energetic, imaginative and courageous and its economic power and humanitarian attributes were acknowledged around the world.

48. The United Nations was undoubtedly the best venue for building confidence between the Republic of China on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China through dialogue. While the Organization could not impose a political settlement, it could provide an enabling environment, and until such time as the two sides could agree on terms of reunification, the United Nations should consider alternative ways of accommodating the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan.

49. **Mr. García González** (El Salvador) said that his country had had good relations with the Republic of China on Taiwan for over 50 years. Each of the political entities bordering the Taiwan Strait had developed its own characteristic identity, and each had enjoyed the recognition of different factions of the international community during the cold war years. The end of the confrontation between East and West had altered the situation, and it was time to examine the issue afresh. The Republic of China on Taiwan was a political, economic and social reality that could not be denied. It enjoyed democracy, it had achieved extraordinary economic development and it provided developing countries with cooperation and development assistance. Accordingly, its people had the right to be represented in the United Nations system and to participate in its activities, in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Charter.

50. Inclusion of the proposed item 183 in the agenda would not constitute interference in the internal affairs of any State, nor would it be an obstacle to the peaceful reunification of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China on Taiwan in due course. The United Nations should recognize the legitimate rights and aspirations of the people of Taiwan, while making every effort to ensure that tensions between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait did not become a threat to international peace and security. His delegation considered that the General Assembly should establish a working group to examine the exceptional international situation of the Republic of China on Taiwan, and it therefore supported the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session.

51. **Ms. Celestine** (Grenada) said that her delegation, as one of the sponsors of the proposal for inclusion of item 183, considered that recent changes warranted an examination of the exceptional international situation of the Republic of China on Taiwan. It was incongruous that a country so committed to

international cooperation, reconciliation, globalization, interdependence and partnership as the way forward to peace and development should be excluded from the United Nations. The family misunderstanding between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China on Taiwan could be resolved through dialogue and the reunification of the Chinese people accomplished through reconciliation and forgiveness.

52. The elections of March 2000 had shown that the Republic of China on Taiwan was a democratic country, and consequently its duly elected Government had the legitimate right to represent its people in the United Nations. It was a highly successful example of economic development. It used its vast resources for humanitarian assistance; her own country had benefited immensely from its cooperation in such fields as agriculture and fishing. It had provided financing for development through the Asian Development Bank, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, the Inter-American Development Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. It had provided substantial sums for disaster relief in various parts of the world. It was fully committed to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

53. The extraordinary accomplishments of the Chinese people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait had enriched the world throughout history. The rift between them was of recent origin and could be overcome with good will on both sides.

54. **Mr. de Saram** (Sri Lanka) said that his delegation had consistently held that there was only one China, and that the People's Republic of China legitimately represented all the Chinese people at the United Nations. The issue had been decided by resolution 2758 (XXVI). Accordingly, his delegation opposed the inclusion of item 183.

55. **Mr. Maquiera** (Chile) agreed with the previous speaker that the issue had been settled in 1971, when resolution 2758 (XXVI) had been adopted. There was only one China, namely, the People's Republic of China. Consequently, his delegation opposed the inclusion of the proposed item.

56. **Mr. Mra** (Myanmar) said that the question of China's representation at the United Nations had been resolved by resolution 2758 (XXVI), which clearly recognized the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representative of China to the United

Nations. Any attempt to include the issue of participation by Taiwan in the Organization was therefore inappropriate. Taiwan was an inalienable part of the People's Republic of China. The question was purely an internal affair of China, and should be settled by the Chinese people themselves, without any outside interference. For that reason, his delegation opposed the inclusion of item 183.

57. **Mr. Mochochoko** (Lesotho) said that his delegation's position had always been consistent with the principle that there was only one China, of which Taiwan was a part. The representatives of the People's Republic of China thus legitimately represented the country at the United Nations; any attempt to alter that situation must be regarded as interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign State. His delegation was therefore opposed to the inclusion of item 183.

58. **Mr. Deady** (Ireland) said that the issue of representation had been settled by resolution 2758 (XXVI). His delegation was therefore opposed to the inclusion of the item in the agenda.

59. **Ms. Escobar** (Mexico) said that her delegation supported the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China, and that the inclusion of the proposed item would be incompatible with the Organization's interests. There were no grounds for questioning the validity of resolution 2758 (XXVI), and consequently the proposed item 183 should not be included in the agenda.

60. **Ms. Browne** (Saint Kitts and Nevis) said that the discussion of the various views on the issue was encouraging in itself. Without being judgmental, her delegation considered that it would be unwise to neglect the Republic of China on Taiwan, in view of its extraordinary accomplishments. There could be no imposed solution to the dispute dividing the Chinese people on the two sides of the Taiwan Strait, but the United Nations could afford an enabling environment for dialogue. Her delegation was therefore in favour of the inclusion of the proposed item, in the hope that discussion would thereby be advanced.

61. **Ms. Thunyani** (Malawi) noted that the Republic of China on Taiwan had been excluded from representation in the United Nations for nearly three decades. The People's Republic of China had never ruled the territory of the Republic of China on Taiwan; there were two Governments, each in its respective area, and the Republic of China on Taiwan represented

only its own 23 million people. The Republic of China on Taiwan had a good track record: it was a democratic society characterized by respect for human rights, in accordance with the ideals of the United Nations, and the Organization should acknowledge that reality. The precedent of Korea was encouraging. Both Koreas were represented in the United Nations; why not both Chinas? Both would be likely to benefit. Their relationship was currently difficult, given their mutual distrust and antagonism, and the United Nations should do everything it could to promote reconciliation between them. Her delegation therefore supported the inclusion of the proposed item.

62. **Mr. Manongi** (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the inclusion of the proposed agenda item would undermine General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) and the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China. There was only one China and its sovereignty should not be called into question. His delegation therefore urged the Committee to reject the proposal.

63. **Mr. Wilson** (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) said that, while Tuvalu, a small island State with a population of 10,000 people, had recently been admitted as a Member of the United Nations, Taiwan, a prosperous democracy with a population of 23 million, continued to be ignored by the Organization. It was time to review General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) and readmit the Republic of China on Taiwan into the United Nations. The Committee should recommend the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda of the General Assembly.

64. **Mr. Al-Humainidi** (Iraq) said that the attempt to include the proposed item in the agenda was tantamount to interference in the foreign affairs of a sovereign State. The Government of the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of the Chinese people. The inclusion of the item would violate the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) and Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations. His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the item.

65. **Mr. Mekdad** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the inclusion of the proposed item was contrary to the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). Any attempt to create two Chinese States would be a violation of the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China, the sole representative of the

Chinese people. His delegation could not support the proposal.

66. **Mr. Hong Je Rong** (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that the question of Chinese representation had been settled in 1971 by the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). The People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate Government of China. The proposal should therefore be rejected.

67. **Mr. Van Schalkwyk** (South Africa) said that South Africa supported the "one-China" principle. The issue of Taiwan was an internal matter that should be resolved by the Chinese people themselves. His delegation could not support the inclusion of the proposed item.

68. **Mr. Hamida** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that, in its resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971, the General Assembly had resolved the issue of Chinese representation in the United Nations. His delegation had always opposed the inclusion of the item and would continue to oppose it. The people and Government of China should be allowed to settle their internal problems without outside interference.

69. **Mr. Cordeiro** (Brazil) said that General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had definitively settled the issue of the representation of China in the United Nations. His delegation therefore rejected the inclusion of the proposed item.

70. **Mr. Gatilov** (Russian Federation) said that the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of China in the United Nations. Taiwan was an integral part of China, not a sovereign State. His delegation therefore could not support the proposal.

71. **Ms. Korneliouk** (Belarus) said that Belarus supported the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China, the sole legitimate representative of the Chinese people. Since Taiwan was not a sovereign State, there could be no question of its admission to membership of the United Nations. Her delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the item in the agenda.

72. **Mr. Obidov** (Uzbekistan) said that Uzbekistan supported the "one-China" principle and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). The Committee should reject the inclusion of the proposed item.

73. **Mr. Hays** (United States of America) said that the United States supported the "one-China" policy. Differences between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan should be resolved peacefully, through dialogue.

74. **Ms. Joseph** (Saint Lucia) said that her delegation supported the "one-China" policy and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) and therefore could not support the proposed agenda item.

75. **Mr. Dausá Céspedes** (Cuba) said that the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) remained in force and could not be revised. The People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of the Chinese people in the United Nations. The proposed agenda item should be rejected.

76. **Mr. Moushoutas** (Cyprus) said that his delegation was not in favour of the inclusion of the proposed agenda item because Cyprus had always supported the principle of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States as well as the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

77. **Mr. Kerma** (Algeria) said that the question of Chinese representation in the United Nations had been resolved by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had been adopted by an overwhelming majority. The current status of Taiwan did not enable it to participate in the work of the Organization, whose Members were sovereign States. His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the item.

78. **Mr. Hossain** (Bangladesh) said that the General Assembly's adoption of its resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled the question of Chinese representation in the United Nations once and for all. That resolution left no scope for considering the inclusion of an agenda item on Taiwan's participation in the work of the Organization.

79. **Mr. Roushdy** (Egypt) said that Egypt had been the first Arab State to recognize the People's Republic of China, which was the sole legitimate representative of the Chinese people. Taiwan was an integral part of China. Since General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had definitively settled the issue of Chinese representation, his delegation could not support the inclusion of the proposed item.

80. **Ms. Cruz** (Angola) said that the question of Chinese representation had been resolved by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). Differences

between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan should be settled by the two Governments. There was therefore no reason for the General Committee to include the proposed item in the agenda.

81. **Mr. Krokmal** (Ukraine) said that the Government of the People's Republic of China was the sole representative of China, and Taiwan was an integral part of China. The question of representation had been resolved by the General Assembly's adoption of its resolution 2758 (XXVI). His delegation opposed the inclusion of the proposed agenda item.

82. **Mr. Maiga** (Mali) said that his delegation associated itself fully with the statement made by the representative of the People's Republic of China. Taiwan was a province of China. The proposed agenda item should be rejected.

83. **Mr. Ouch Borima** (Cambodia) said that the Government of Cambodia recognized one China, the People's Republic of China. The question of Taiwan province was an internal matter to be settled by the Chinese people. His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the proposed agenda item.

84. **Mr. Stevčevski** (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) said that it was in the interests of the United Nations to allow Taiwan, an economically robust country with a population of 23 million, to participate in the work of the Organization. Accordingly, his delegation supported the inclusion of the item in the agenda.

85. **Ms. Drayton** (Guyana) said that Guyana had always supported General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), and any consideration of Taiwan's participation in the work of the United Nations would not be in keeping with the provisions of that resolution. Her delegation strongly opposed the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

86. **Mr. Yessenbayev** (Kazakhstan) said that his delegation could not support the inclusion of the proposed agenda item. The People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of the Chinese people, and the question of Taiwan was an internal affair that should be settled by the Government and people of China themselves.

87. **Mr. Politi** (Italy) said that, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China were the only lawful

representatives of China to the United Nations. His delegation supported the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of China. The People's Republic of China should seek a peaceful solution of the Taiwan question.

88. **Mr. Eldon** (United Kingdom) said that his delegation was not convinced by the arguments that had been put forward for the proposed agenda item. As in previous years, his delegation opposed the inclusion of the item.

89. **Mr. Jouveia** (Mozambique) said that his delegation was committed to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). It therefore strongly opposed the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

90. **Ms. Tohtohodjaeva** (Kyrgyzstan) said that her delegation supported the statement made by the representative of the People's Republic of China. In accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), the People's Republic of China was the sole representative of China in the United Nations. Her delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the item.

91. **Mr. Alabrune** (France) said that his delegation's position was based on the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). Taiwan was an integral part of Chinese territory. France was not in favour of the inclusion of the proposed agenda item.

92. **Mr. Moungara-Moussotsi** (Gabon) said that his delegation agreed with the overwhelming majority of States Members of the United Nations that the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of the Chinese people. The question of allowing Taiwan to participate in the work of the United Nations should not be considered by the General Assembly, since any reopening of the question of Taiwan might hamper the ongoing discussions on the inclusion of Taiwan in the People's Republic of China.

93. **Mr. Hoang Chi Trong** (Viet Nam) said that his delegation upheld the fundamental purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, particularly non-interference in internal affairs and respect for the territorial integrity of States. Since Viet Nam supported the "one-China" policy, it could not

support the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

94. **Mr. Kittikhoun** (Lao People's Democratic Republic) said that his delegation was opposed to the inclusion of the proposed agenda item. China had always been a single nation. The differences between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan were the result of very recent history, and Taiwan would certainly be reunited with China in the not too distant future. Moreover, General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had resolved the question of Chinese representation once and for all.

95. **Mr. Al-Haddad** (Yemen) said that, since his delegation was committed to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) and considered the People's Republic of China to be the sole representative of the Chinese people, it could not accept the inclusion of the proposed agenda item.

96. **Mr. Jerandi** (Tunisia) said that the question of Chinese representation in the United Nations had been settled by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the proposed agenda item.

97. **Mr. Boudine** (Djibouti) said that his delegation strongly supported the "one-China" principle and rejected the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

98. **Mr. Tsering** (Bhutan) said that, in keeping with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), his delegation was opposed to the inclusion of the item.

99. **Mr. Dorjsuren** (Mongolia) said that, since General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had definitively settled the issue of Chinese representation in the United Nations, his delegation could not support the inclusion of the proposed agenda item.

100. **Mr. Ahmad** (Pakistan) said that, year after year, the General Committee had concluded that Taiwan, which was an integral part of the People's Republic of China, had no right whatsoever to become a Member of the United Nations. The repetitious and wasteful debate on the inclusion of an agenda item on the subject took place every year, taking time away from the consideration of substantive issues. There was no need to review the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). His delegation strongly opposed the inclusion of the proposed item.

101. *The Committee decided not to recommend the inclusion of item 183 in the agenda.*

102. *Mr. Farhadi (Afghanistan), Mr. Kerma (Algeria), Ms. Cruz (Angola), Mr. Bocalandro (Argentina), Mr. Hossain (Bangladesh), Ms. Shoman (Belize), Mr. Cordeiro (Brazil), Mr. Ouch Borima (Cambodia), Mr. Babikir (Chad), Mr. Maquiera (Chile), Mr. Dausá Céspedes (Cuba), Mr. Moushoutas (Cyprus), Mr. Hong Je Rong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea), Mr. Boudine (Djibouti), Ms. Theodore (Dominica), Mr. Roushdy (Egypt), Ms. Baldeh (Gambia), Ms. Celestine (Grenada), Ms. Drayton (Guyana), Mr. Al-Humainidi (Iraq), Mr. Deady (Ireland), Mr. Yessenbayev (Kazakhstan), Ms. Tohtohodjaeva (Kyrgyzstan), Mr. Kittikhoun (Lao People's Democratic Republic), Mr. Mochochoko (Lesotho), Mr. Osode (Liberia), Mr. Hamida (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), Ms. Thunyani (Malawi), Mr. Maiga (Mali), Mr. Relang (Marshall Islands), Ms. Escobar (Mexico), Mr. Dorjsuren (Mongolia), Mr. Dowiyogo (Nauru), Mr. Castellón Duarte (Nicaragua), Mr. Ahmad (Pakistan), Ms. Browne (Saint Kitts and Nevis), Ms. Joseph (Saint Lucia), Mr. Wilson (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. Ferreira (Sao Tome and Principe), Mr. Ka (Senegal), Mr. Manele (Solomon Islands), Mr. Van Schalkwyk (South Africa), Mr. de Saram (Sri Lanka), Mr. Mamba (Swaziland), Mr. Mekdad (Syrian Arab Republic), Mr. Nurov (Tajikistan), Mr. Stevčevski (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Mr. Krokmal (Ukraine), Mr. Manongi (United Republic of Tanzania) and Mr. Hoang Chi Trong (Viet Nam) withdrew.*

Item 184

103. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 184 in the agenda.*

Item 186

104. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 186 in the agenda.*

Item 188

105. **Mr. Eldon** (United Kingdom) said that the reasons for his delegation's proposal to include the item in the agenda were set out in its letter to the Secretary-General. The General Assembly should

respond to growing international concern about the illicit exploitation of diamonds to finance armed purchases and other activities, which prolonged and escalated conflicts throughout the world. The President of Sierra Leone, a country that was currently most afflicted by illicit trade in diamonds, strongly supported the inclusion of the item. He requested the Committee to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

106. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 188 in the agenda.*

Item 189

107. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 189 in the agenda.*

Item 190

108. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 190 in the agenda.*

Item 191

109. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 191 in the agenda.*

Item 192

110. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 192 in the agenda.*

Section V. Allocation of items

Paragraph 50

111. **The Chairman** drew attention to paragraph 50 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/55/1 and Add.1), which stated that the allocation of items was based on the pattern adopted by the General Assembly for those items in previous years. The General Committee might wish to draw the Assembly's attention to paragraph 4 of its decision 34/401, paragraph 5 of the annex to Assembly resolution 39/88 B, paragraph 6 of the annex to Assembly resolution 45/45, paragraphs 2 and 5 (b) and (d) of annex I to resolution 48/264, as well as

paragraph 24 of the annex to resolution 51/241 concerning the allocation and clustering of items.

112. *The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the above-mentioned paragraphs.*

Paragraph 51

113. *The Committee decided to take note of paragraph 51.*

Paragraph 52

114. **The Chairman** said that, in paragraph 52 of his memorandum (A/BUR/55/1 and Add.1), the Secretary-General listed items of the draft agenda that had not been considered previously by the General Assembly. If the members of the Committee agreed, he would first request the Committee to pronounce itself on the recommendation that it should make regarding the allocation of those items recommended for inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-fifth session.

115. *It was so decided.*

Items 49, 172, 184, 186, 188, 190, 191 and 192

116. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 49, 172, 184, 186, 188, 190, 191 and 192 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Items 171 and 189

117. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 171 and 189 should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.*

Items 173 and 182

118. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 173 and 182 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Paragraph 54 (Item 10 of the draft agenda)

119. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should hear a brief presentation by the Secretary-General of his annual report on the work of the Organization on Tuesday, 12 September, as the first item in the morning prior to the opening of the general debate.*

Paragraph 55 (Item 12 of the draft agenda)

120. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the various parts of the report of the Economic and Social Council should be allocated in accordance with the suggestions made by the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 56 (Item 18 of the draft agenda)

121. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that all the chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to specific Territories should be referred to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), thus enabling the Assembly to deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.*

Paragraph 57 (Item 51 of the draft agenda)

122. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.*

Paragraph 58 (Item 61 of the draft agenda)

123. **The Chairman** said that the General Assembly's decision to convene, as an integral part of the Millennium Assembly, the Millennium Summit of the United Nations from 6 to 8 September 2000 was being implemented.

Paragraph 59 (Item 65 of the draft agenda)

124. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 65 should be allocated at an appropriate time during the session.*

Paragraph 60 (Item 74 of the draft agenda)

125. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the paragraphs of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency dealing with the subject matter of item 74 should be drawn to the*

attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of that item.

Paragraph 61 (Item 109 of the draft agenda)

126. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the United Nations Development Fund for Women should be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 98 of the draft agenda.

Items proposed for consideration in plenary meeting

127. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration in plenary meeting, including items 49, 172, 184, 186, 188, 190, 191 and 192, excluding item 65 (Question of Cyprus), and taking into account its decision on the item entitled "Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte", should be allocated to the plenary Assembly.

Items proposed for consideration by the First Committee

128. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the First Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

129. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Fourth Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum should be allocated to that Committee, taking into account its decision on the item entitled "Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India".

Items proposed for consideration by the Second Committee

130. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Second Committee in the

Secretary-General's memorandum should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Third Committee

131. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Third Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Fifth Committee

132. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Fifth Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum, including the item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations" and item 189, should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Sixth Committee

133. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Sixth Committee in the Secretary-General's memorandum, including item 173, entitled "Observer status for the Inter-American Development Bank in the General Assembly", and item 182, entitled "Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly", should be allocated to that Committee.

The meeting rose at 12 a.m.



General Assembly

Fifty-fifth session

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Summary record of the 3rd meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 27 September 2000, at 9 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Holkeri (Finland)

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Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Equatorial Guinea

Request by Italy on allocation of agenda item 105

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00-66050 (E)



The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly and allocation of items (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Equatorial Guinea (A/55/233)

1. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to consider a request for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States". The representative of Equatorial Guinea had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

2. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Ntugu Abeso (Equatorial Guinea) took a place at the Committee table.*

3. **Mr. Ntugu Abeso** (Equatorial Guinea) said that, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), established in 1983, was increasingly confronted by obstacles to achieving subregional integration, including numerous conflicts which had affected political stability and security in the subregion. ECCAS worked closely with the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, established by General Assembly resolution 46/37 B of 28 May 1992 as a forum for dialogue and policy coordination.

4. The latest socio-political realities in the subregion had prompted the restructuring of ECCAS. In June 1999, the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX) had been established to ensure policy and military coordination in peacekeeping, peace-building and security operations. Other aspects of the restructuring included the establishment of a multinational Central African force; an early warning mechanism; a subregional parliament; and the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy. For all those reasons, the States members of ECCAS wished to formalize and expand their cooperation with the United Nations system. The inclusion of the additional item in the agenda of the current session would facilitate the kind of direct contact with the United Nations and its specialized agencies enjoyed by other regional and subregional economic communities.

5. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the additional item should be included in the agenda, and that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

6. *Mr. Ntugu Abeso (Equatorial Guinea) withdrew.*

Request by Italy on allocation of agenda item 105 (A/55/417)

7. **The Chairman** drew attention to a letter dated 25 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Italy (A/55/417) concerning agenda item 105 on crime prevention and criminal justice. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly had decided to allocate the item to the Third Committee.

8. In his letter of 25 September 2000, the Permanent Representative of Italy drew attention to General Assembly resolution 53/111 by which the Assembly decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration, as appropriate, of international instruments addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea. By its resolution 54/126, the General Assembly also decided that the Ad Hoc Committee should submit the final text of the Convention and the protocols thereto to the Assembly for early adoption prior to a high-level signing conference. In that connection, the Permanent Representative of Italy had requested that agenda item 105 of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly, entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice", should also be considered directly in the plenary Assembly for the sole purpose of taking action on the draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the draft protocols thereto. The representative of Italy had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

9. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Borzi (Italy) took a place at the Committee table.*

10. **Ms. Borzi** (Italy) drew attention to the letter dated 25 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Italy (A/55/417) and said that the

political signing conference for the purpose of signing the Convention and its protocols was scheduled to take place in Palermo from 12 to 15 December 2000. The Ad Hoc Committee would meet for four weeks in October to finalize the text of the three protocols supplementing the Convention. Her delegation requested the inclusion of agenda item 105 with a view to the adoption of the draft Convention and protocols by the General Assembly during the current session, and to allowing sufficient time for their transmission to the political signing conference in Palermo.

11. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that agenda item 105 should also be considered directly in plenary meeting for the sole purpose of taking action on the draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the draft protocols thereto.

12. *Ms Borzi (Italy) withdrew.*

The meeting rose at 9.15 a.m.

**General Assembly**

Fifty-fifth session

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General Committee**Summary record of the 4th meeting**

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 16 October 2000, at 9 a.m.

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Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea,
Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland,
Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United States of America and Viet Nam

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00-69183 (E)



The meetings was called to order at 9 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda of the fifty-fifth regular session of the General Assembly and allocation of items (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Netherlands (A/55/234)

1. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to consider a request by the Netherlands for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons", contained in document A/55/234. The representative of the Netherlands had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

2. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Naeff (Netherlands) took a place at the Committee table.*

3. **Mr. Naeff** (Netherlands), referring to document A/55/234, said that, as the host country of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Netherlands deemed it extremely important to support the request for the inclusion of the item in the agenda of the current session of the General Assembly. On 17 October 2000, an agreement would be signed between the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United Nations. Accordingly, it would be appropriate if the General Assembly would consider the matter in plenary meeting as soon as possible after the signing of the agreement, which would give the Director-General of the organization an opportunity to address the plenary Assembly.

4. *Mr. Naeff (Netherlands) withdrew.*

5. **The Chairman** said that the representative of Brazil had asked to make a statement. Rule 43 of the rules of procedure did not apply. He took it that the Committee wished to accede to the request.

6. *It was so decided.*

7. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Cordeiro (Brazil) took a place at the Committee table.*

8. **Mr. Cordeiro** (Brazil) said that his delegation seconded and supported the inclusion of the item in the agenda.

9. *Mr. Cordeiro (Brazil) withdrew.*

10. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be included in the agenda, and that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Algeria, Finland, Namibia, Poland, Singapore and Venezuela (A/55/235)

11. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to consider a request by Algeria, Finland, Namibia, Poland, Singapore and Venezuela for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit", contained in document A/55/235.

12. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be included in the agenda, and that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belize, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United States of America and Viet Nam (A/55/236)

13. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to consider a request by Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belize, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United States of America and Viet Nam for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula", contained in document A/55/236. The representatives of the

Republic of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Singapore had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

14. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Sun Joung-yung (Republic of Korea), Mr. Li Hyong Chol (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) and Mr. Mahbubani (Singapore) took places at the Committee table.*

15. **Mr. Sun Joung-yung** (Republic of Korea) said that, should the request for inclusion of the item in the agenda be granted, a draft resolution on the subject would be submitted, which he hoped would be adopted by consensus in the General Assembly. The adoption of the resolution should greatly encourage the efforts to bring durable peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula and also contribute to peace and security in the rest of the world. At the same time, it would encourage similar endeavours elsewhere and serve as an example to other countries of how differences could be resolved peacefully through dialogue.

16. **Mr. Li Hyong Chol** (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that both the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea shared the view that the adoption of a United Nations resolution welcoming and supporting the inter-Korean summit meeting and the joint declaration resulting from that meeting would further encourage and promote the new positive developments on the Korean peninsula. The two countries had accordingly agreed, to jointly request the inclusion of the item in the agenda of the current session. It was of great significance that they were making such joint efforts in the United Nations for the first time. His delegation looked forward to the cooperation of all Member States in recommending the inclusion of the proposed additional item and adopting the draft resolution by consensus at the current session.

17. **Mr. Mahbubani** (Singapore) said that, because of its historic significance, his delegation endorsed the inclusion of the item in the agenda. The first ever inter-Korean summit held in June 2000 had set in motion a series of positive developments for peace and security on the Korean peninsula and beyond. Its beneficial effects had been felt in the region as a whole. The fact that the peoples of both the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea had

agreed to support a draft resolution was a very significant development indeed.

18. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be included in the agenda, and that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

The meeting rose at 9 20 a.m.